

CLAIMS:

1. A pharmaceutical formulation including spray dried powder particles having a core element containing one or more pharmaceutically active compounds and a substantially continuous polymeric coating thereon, both to taste mask and to
5 provide sustained release of said compounds.
2. A formulation as claimed in claim 1, wherein said core element has a particle size of between 0.1 μ m and 250 μ m.
3. A formulation as claimed in claim 2, wherein said particle size is in the range of from 35 μ m and 175 μ m.
- 10 4. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said coating comprises less than 23% of the weight of the formulation.
5. A formulation as claimed in claim 4 wherein said coating comprises less than 20% of the weight of the formulation.
6. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said polymeric
15 coating is an ethyl cellulose coating.
7. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claims, wherein the thickness of said coating is within the range of from 0.005 to 25 μ m.
8. A formulation as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said pharmaceutically active compound is paracetamol.
- 20 9. A formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said pharmaceutically active compound is clarithromycin.
10. A formulation substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the examples.
11. A method of preparing a formulation as claimed in claim 1, including the
25 steps of mixing said core element and said coating in a diluent and spray drying said mixture to form a powder.
12. A method of preparing a formulation substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the examples.